

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated September 19, 2006 has been received and duly noted. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's recognition that Claims 1-7 are patentable over the cited art.

Claims 8-16 were rejected as being anticipated by Hepple. The Examiner contends that the recitation in Claim 8 to a weight is satisfied by the motor. The motor is not, however, removeably positioned within an upwardly opening recess in the brush head, as recited in Claim 8. The motor in Hepple is positioned within a cover, and clearly is not within or positioned on a brush head, as recited in Claim 8.

Claim 8 was previously amended to recite a liquid supply supported on the handle. As disclosed in the application, the liquid supply 76 is supported on the handle, as shown in Figure 1. This is in contrast to Hepple, wherein the liquid supply is provided within a powerbase unit separate from the brush handle. Applicant submits that amended Claim 8 is patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

With respect to dependant Claim 12, Figure 8 of Hepple arguably discloses a liquid distribution manifold, but not a manifold contained within the brush head, as recited in Claim 12. With respect to dependant Claim 14, the cited reference does not disclose or suggest a venturi port for dispensing chemicals through the conduit. With respect to dependant Claim 16, Hepple does not disclose a male and a female support member as recited, in

combination with a cantilevered support latch with a free end partially overlapping the second end of the weight.

Claims 17-20 were rejected for being anticipated by Besel. Claim 17 recites a weight removeably positioned within an upwardly opening in the weight recess in the brush head. The motor in Besel is spaced above the brush head. The claim further recites a roller secured to a central body portion of the brush head forward of the handle, with this roller being used to transport the weighted scrub brush in a manner similar to that shown in Figure 5. Claim 17 recites that the plurality of bristles support the brush head above the upwardly facing surface which is to be scrubbed. That is the purpose for the weight in the present design, which is not an issue in Besel. In Besel, the frame and the wheels support the brush head. The wheels in Besel are not secured to a central body portion of the brush forward of the handle, but instead are secured to the sides of the frame. None of the wheels are positioned such that the brush head may be pivoted to a forward inverted position, as recited in Claim 17, to roll the scrub brush on the roller. The reference also does not disclose or suggest outer body portions extending laterally outwardly of the roller and being vertically lower than the central body portion to increase vertical clearance above the outer body portions. In fact, the wheels of Besel are supported to the frame in such a manner that there would be no reason to have outer body portions vertically lower than the central body portion to increase vertical distance above the outer body portions, since the wheels would block the outer body portion from fitting vertically under a cabinet or other member.

With respect to dependant Claim 18, the Besel reference does not disclose laterally opposed outer body portions tapering downwardly toward the laterally opposing ends. With respect to dependant Claim 19, the cited reference does not disclose a weight recess extending at least partially into the outer body portions of the brush head, with the weight tapering downwardly toward the laterally opposing ends of the brush head. With respect to Claim 20, the cited reference does not disclose a male support member and a female support member as recited in the claim, in combination with a cantilevered support latch with a free end partially overlapping the second end of the weight to secure the second end within the weight recess.

In view of the above, early allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



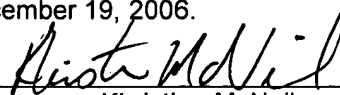
Loren G. Helmreich
Reg. No. 29,389

Date: December 19, 2006

BROWNING BUSHMAN P.C.
5718 Westheimer, Suite 1800
Houston, Texas 77057-5771
Tel.: (713) 266-5593
Fax: (713) 266-5169

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on December 19, 2006.



Khristine McNeil